

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lee W. Tower on Wednesday, January 7, 2010.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

As per claims 1, line 12, limitation "wherein the step of configuring a VLAN QinQ switching device and an MPLS device" **is replaced with** "wherein the step of configuring **the** VLAN QinQ switching device and **the** MPLS device". **And claim 1 line 18, limitation** "assigning an MPLS label" **is replaced with** "assigning **a** MPLS label"

As per the Abstract, lines 6, "a label distribution protocol (LOP) to support encapsulation" should be replaced with "a label distribution protocol (**LDP**) to support encapsulation"

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 2 and 5-10, are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should

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preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AJAY P. CATTUNGAL whose telephone number is (571)270-7525. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 7:30 - 5:00, Alternating Fridays OFF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pankaj Kumar can be reached on 571-272-3011. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. P. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2467

/Pankaj Kumar/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2467

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